Sabha has been assured that whatever is possible for these contract labourers, will be done.

[Translation]

Train Accidents

4148. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents which occurred in the country during the last six months, month-wise;

(b) the causes of these accidents and the number of persons killed therein alongwith the amount of compensation given by the Government to the affected families; and

(c) the extent of loss incurred by the Government during each of the last two years due to the accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Month-wise break-up of consequential train accidents on Indian Railways since September, 1996 is as under :

September, 1996 - 27; October, 1996 - 23;
November, 1996 - 27; December, 1996-28;
January, 1997 - 29 and Febaurary, 1997 - 32.

(b) Main causes of accidents were human failure, equipment failure and sabotage. As per provisional information, 141 persons lost their lives in these accidents. Fatalities are inclusive of 43 victims in two bomb blasts and 84 persons other than passengers or railway staff. Compensation will be paid soon after the claims are decreed by the Railway Claims Tribunal.

(c) Cost of damage to railway property due to accidents during 1994-95 and 1995-96 was Rs. 38.18 crores and Rs. 46.15 crores respectively.

Scheme to Connect Tourist Places by Air Services

4149. SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to connect tourist places by air services during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the detais thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the tourist places connected with air services in Uttar Pradesh at present?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Indian Airlines and Alliance Air are operating to Lucknow, Agra and Varanasi.

Contracts to Foreign Companies

4150. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the foreign companies which have been awarded communication contracts during the last six months;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been transparency awarding in these contracts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) (i) Names of the companies which have been awarded contracts for the supply of telecom equipment during last six months along with details is indicated below :

	Name of the Co.	Equipment	Value of Contract
1.	M/s. Philips Netherland	ISDN Feature phone	52644
2.	M/s. EF Data Corpn; USA	IDR 34 MBPS MOD/DEMOD	USD 452210

(ii) List of foreign companies to whom contracts were awareded during the last six months by Deptt. of Posts for carriage of International Airmail is enclosed as Statement.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The contracts have been awarded through Open Tender Process.

Statement

List of Foreign Companies to which contracts were awarded during last Six Months for the Carriage of International Airmail

1. Thai Airways
2. Lufthansa Cargo
3. Saudi Arabian Airlines
4. Kenya Airways
5. Egypt Air
6. British Airways
7. KLM Cargo
8. Singapore Airlines
9. Oantas Airways
10. Ethiopian Air
11. Kuwait Airways
12. Gulf Air.
13. United Airlines